

Kinsey hot line

As the Oregon House of Representatives completed its third month of legislative business, a new round of controversy has stirred up around Oregon's welfare budget as the result of a report by Touche, Ross & Co. on welfare eligibility in Oregon. This company is a nation-wide accounting firm, hired to study eligibility in the Aid to Dependent Children program, and the report pointed out that "there are few problems facing Oregon which approach the magnitude in terms of cost, confusion and controversy as that of the public welfare program."

The report revealed that welfare in Oregon has grown from \$142.7 million in the 1967 biennium to \$359.7 million in the 1971-73 biennium, representing a 60% increase over a four-year period, thus reaffirming the findings announced earlier this year by the House Task Force on Welfare which was appointed in December. In the 1967-69 biennium it was estimated that there were 43,000 people receiving welfare, where today that figure is estimated to be nearly 100,000.

The House Task Force report indicated that perhaps between 15% and 20% of the cases in the ADC category were fraudulent, which was confirmed by the accounting firm's figures showing that 18% of the ADC cases were found to be incorrect either in the amount of money given or in total eligibility. The greatest shock effect of the entire report, however, was the cost factor involved in that type of error, which showed that approximately \$330,000 a month was being lost either through errors or by fraud.

Gone but not forgotten



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Although dealing specifically

with ADC cases, the report recommended changes in administration and better certification of eligibility for welfare grants, which it was ascertained would save as much as 60% of this \$330,000 a month during the next biennium.

One of the most controversial bills to have come before the House this session, House Bill 1036, was passed last week. The net effect of this bill would be to ban all non-returnable bottles and cans in Oregon, which would in essence prohibit the retail sale of beer or non-alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption in containers without a minimum refund value of five cents; and the bill also provides for the prevention of retail sale of beverages in pull-tab cans. The bill met strong opposition from some segments of industry and labor, but the public reaction was overwhelmingly in favor of this approach as at least one means of attempting to get at the litter problem which has become so apparent along our roadsides and resort areas.

The House also voted this week to create the Oregon Fair Plan Association to provide essential property insurance in high risk areas where previously many property owners in these areas were unable to purchase insurance. The insurance industry, the State Insurance Commissioner, and residents of the affected areas are all in agreement that this legislation is the answer to the problem of either no available insurance, or higher premium rates if insurance is available.

PCC Sociologist writes TV scripts

Dr. Albert Ellsworth, PCC instructor in the social sciences has been participating in the production of a television series titled THE CHANGING CITY, being prepared for broadcast over the state-owned educational Channel 10, KOAP-TV.

He has been working on scripts for the programs in conjunction with Mrs. Judy Hyde of the Portland Public Schools television department, providing much of the historical information for the series, which will consist of eight fifteen-minute programs.

PCC will videotape the series for use in college classes as the programs appear on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and via re-runs on Fridays at 12:45 p.m.

Sabin school news

Mr. Weitz, seventh grade teacher, reports that the students who volunteered their time after school have nearly completed their work on the project, a booklet entitled "Black People Making History in Portland." Information for the biographical sketches was obtained through personal interviews and form letters, giving the students some extremely interesting contacts.

This booklet will contain some forty to fifty biographies of black people who are contributing to their community through a variety of methods.

The intent of this booklet is to show students both black and white, that black people are very much a part of American life and history, and the way they live right now helps determine the future course of this country and the world!

It should also show that many black people have overcome obstacles through education and hard work, and, hopefully, that adults really do care about what happens to today's youth.

The Portland School District will publish the book which should be going to press shortly.

Once the book is published, each contributor, each student who worked on the project, and each student's parent will be invited to an open house where they will be presented with a copy of the book.

The students have worked entirely on their own time and have done an outstanding job of gathering and compiling the material, especially Anita Elliott who worked every night after school in order to complete the project.

Pictures of some of the students working on our book of biographies of "Black People Making History in Portland"

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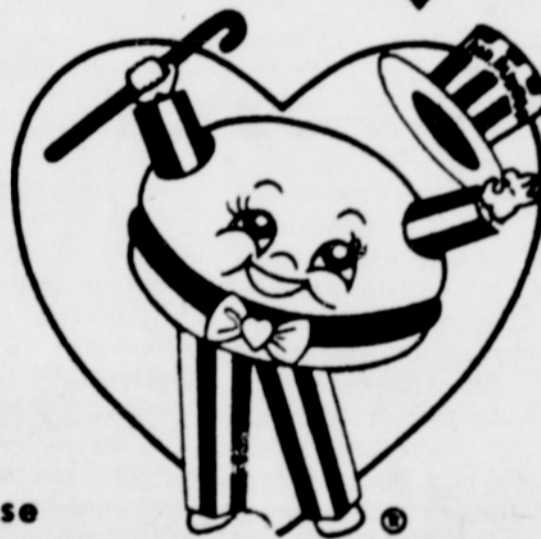
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